

**LLWCHWR**  
**Urban District Council**

**Annual Report**  
**FOR THE YEAR**  
**1954**

**BY**  
**G. E. DONOVAN**

**M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health**



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**GORSEINON PRINTERS**



## Llwchwr Urban District Council.

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*Chairman* : Councillor W. J. OWEN, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor WYNDHAM JONES.

*Councillors* :

EDWARD MORRIS.	WILFRED HILL.
M. THOMAS.	E. G. THOMAS.
T. S. EDWARDS.	C. B. JONES.
R. T. WHITEFOOT.	D. T. REES.
G. MATHIAS.	S. WILLIAMS.
H. G. WILLIAMS	J. D. MORGAN.
Mrs. H. OWEN, J.P.	Mrs. C. J. REES, J.P.
R. WILLIAMS.	S. MEREDITH.
Miss M. L. PUGH.	B. C. WILLIAMS.
C. H. JONES.	G. WILLIAMS.
W. D. MORGAN.	J. JONES.

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*Public Health Committee* :

*Chairman* : Councillor G. WILLIAMS.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor Mrs. H. OWEN, J.P.

Chairman and 11 members of the Council.

## *Public Health Officers.*

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### *Medical Officer of Health :*

G. E. DONOVAN, M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.

### *Sanitary Inspectors :*

Senior Inspector — B. D. OWENS, C.R.S.I., Meat Cert., R.S.I.,  
(M.S.I.A.)

Additional Inspector—M. C. DAVIES, C.R.S.I., Meat Cert., R.S.I.  
Dipl., R.I.P.H.H., (M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.)

### *Clerk :*

C. A. POWELL,

## Llwchwr Urban District Council.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
West Street,  
GORSEINON.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
LLWCHWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1954.

One of the great problems in the Llwwchwr area is rehousing. The sooner we have adequate housing for our population, the better will be the health of our people. Other factors are mentioned in this Report.

The work of the health department is constantly increasing, and the pressure is becoming greater.

I thank my staff for their loyalty and support.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

G. E. DONOVAN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

This area comprises both urban and rural features. It has developed into an industrial area with a series of townships and villages, and practically all these habitations have most of the amenities of a large town, being provided with a pure supply of water from the Swansea Corporation Reservoirs at Velindre and Cray, sewerage schemes, scavenging services, public lighting, gas service and parks. In the very rural parts of the district, water is principally obtained from wells and springs, and the sanitation by means of cesspools, pail closets, etc.

There are four cinemas in the area ; two at Gorseinon, one at Gowerton, and one at Pontardulais.

The Public Library at Gorseinon, I understand still continues to be well patronised by the general public. Libraries are also provided at the various Welfare Institutes.

The chief industries in the district are coal-mining, steel smelting, tinplating and agriculture.

The Cold Reduction Plant at Velindre is still in course of construction.

## AREA AND POPULATION.

The Llchwyr Urban District is divided into four Parishes, namely, Llandilo-Talybont, Loughor, Gowerton, and Llangyfelach; the total acreage being 17,815 acres.

The acreage of each Parish is as follows :—

Llandilo-Talybont	....	....	7,556 acres.
Gowerton	....	....	2,538 acres.
Llangyfelach	....	....	6,474 acres.
Loughor	....	....	1,247 acres.
			<hr/> 17,815 acres. <hr/>



The estimated residential population of the district for 1954 is given by the Registrar-General as 25,720, an increase of 170 as compared with 1953.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 7,151, and the rateable value of the district was £101,950 which represents a sum of £384 as the yield of a penny rate.

## BIRTHS.

The number of live births registered for the district in 1954 was 346, of whom 192 were male and 154 female, representing a birth-rate of 13.45 per thousand of the population. In 1953 the net total births amounted to 323, with a birth-rate of 12.64 per thousand of the population ; thus this year there is an increase of 23 births or 0.81 more than the rate recorded for the preceding year.

Six male and two female illegitimate children were registered, a proportion of 23.1 per thousand registered live births. The rate for 1953 was 32.0.

The stillbirths numbered 9, that is, 6 male and 3 female, which is equivalent to a rate of 25.3 per thousand total (live and still) births, as compared with 41.8 for the year 1953.

**Birth-rate** :—The birth-rate for the Llchwyr area is sadly low. It is only 13.45 per thousand of the population, whilst that for England and Wales is 15.2, 160 Great Towns 16.8 ; 160 Smaller Towns 16.6.

An area with a low birth-rate is doomed except the factors which have brought this about are reversed.

It does not induce towards a high fertility rate if young married couples are living in rooms or with their people in law. The tensions engendered give rise to quarrelling and unhappiness. It can happen that by giving the highest priority to other cases, that the birth rate can drop to catastrophic levels. There is no real wealth in an area, except in its young, all its hopes and future are centred on them.

An important factor in reducing birth rate is the fact that both partners go out to work and decide to postpone having children.

## DEATHS.

The net total deaths after allowing for inward and outward transfers amounted to 310, of which 168 were males and 142 females. This gives a death rate of 12.05 per thousand of the population as compared with 267 deaths and a death rate of 10.45 per thousand of the population in 1953. It will be noted that the death-rate is slightly higher than that of England and Wales which is 11.3 per thousand of the population.

There were 15 deaths under 1 year during the year, giving an Infantile Mortality rate of 43.35 per 1,000 Live Births. The Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales is given as 25.5 per thousand live births.

The death rate amongst illegitimate children was 5.78 per thousand illegitimate live births, whilst the rate for legitimate children was 37.57 per thousand legitimate births.

The following Table gives Infantile Mortality rates for England and Wales, and various other countries for the years 1952-54, and also the Llchwyr area in comparison :—

Country.	1952.	1953.	1954.
LLWCHWR URBAN ....	37.	37.	43.
England and Wales ....	28.	27.	26.
Wales ....	33.	31.	32.
Scotland ....	35.	38.	—
Northern Ireland ....	39.	—	—
Irish Republic ....	41.	39.	—
Australia ....	24.	23.	22.
Canada ....	38.	35.	—
Chile ....	134.	114.	—
Denmark ....	29.	27.	27.
France ....	46.	42.	41.
Italy ....	64.	59.	53.
Netherlands ....	23.	22.	21.
New Zealand ....	22.	20.	22.
Sweden ....	20.	19.	19.
U.S.A. ....	29.	28.	27.

The Infant Mortality Rate is a very good index to the social circumstances of an area as the rate tends to be high in places where bad housing, overcrowding, defective sanitation, maternal ignorance and neglect prevail. The rate for the Llchwyr area is 43.35 per thousand live births. This is much higher than I like it.

It is gratifying to note that there were no maternal deaths during the year. The number of maternal deaths for England and Wales for the years 1952-54 are as follows :—

	1952.	1953.	1954.
Sepsis of Pregnancy, child-birth and puerperium ; abortion with sepsis (640, 641, 651, 681, 682, 684)	110.	110.	97.
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium including abortion (Rem. 640-689) ....	388.	417.	384.

One death occurred from Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea, giving a rate of 0.038 per thousand of the population.

Four deaths were due to Pneumonia, 12 due to Bronchitis, 3 due to Influenza, and 13 due to other forms of Respiratory Diseases which gives a total of 32 deaths from all forms of respiratory diseases apart from Tuberculosis, giving a death rate of 1.24 per thousand of the population.

Ten deaths were registered from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, and one from other forms of Tuberculosis, which is equivalent of 0.42 per thousand of the population.

Cancer and other forms of malignant diseases caused 57 deaths, which is equivalent to a rate of 2.2 per thousand of the population. This figure includes four deaths from leukaemia/aleukaemia.

The causes of deaths during the year are as follows :—

Respiratory Tuberculosis ....	10
Other Tuberculosis ....	1
Syphilitic disease ....	0
Diphtheria ....	0
Whooping Cough ....	0
Meningococcal infections ....	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ....	0
Measles ....	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases ....	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ....	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ....	9
Malignant neoplasm, breast ....	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ....	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ....	26
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ....	4
Diabetes ....	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ....	48
Coronary disease, angina ....	35
Hypertension with heart disease ....	10
Other heart disease....	53
Other circulatory disease ....	13
Influenza ....	3
Pneumonia ....	4
Bronchitis ....	12
Other diseases of respiratory system ....	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ....	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ....	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ....	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ....	7
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ....	0
Congenital malformations ....	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ....	34
Motor Vehicle accidents ....	1
All other accidents ....	3
Suicide ....	1
Homicide and operations of war ....	0
Total ....	310

## STATISTICAL REVIEW, 1954.

The following table gives the birth rate, death rate, and infant mortality rate for England and Wales and the Administrative County of Glamorgan for the year 1954, and for the purpose of comparison quotes similar statistics for the years 1953 and 1934 :—

			Birth Rate			Death Rate			Infant Mor- tality Rate		
			1954	1953	1934	1954	1953	1934	1954	1953	1934
England and Wales			15.2	15.5	14.8	11.3	11.4	11.8	26	27	59
Administrative County of Glamorgan			15.6	16.2	16.5	12.3	11.8	13.6	32	31	65
Total Urban Districts			15.9	16.4	16.7	12.4	11.9	14.0	32	29	66
Total Rural Districts			14.9	15.6	15.7	12.0	11.4	12.4	31	37	61
Health Division	Constituent Districts										
Aberdare and Mountain Ash	Aberdare Urban		13.8	13.6	13.4	14.3	14.7	15.3	27	31	79
	Mountain Ash Urban		15.2	17.0	18.2	12.9	11.3	14.2	21	25	67
Caerphilly and Gelligaer	Caerphilly Urban		19.8	20.1	20.6	10.1	9.3	15.1	36	37	62
	Gelligaer Urban		17.8	18.5	19.0	12.1	10.8	15.1	45	32	66
Mid-Glamorgan	Bridgend Urban		17.5	16.3	11.0	11.1	10.0	9.4	12	40	55
	Maesteg Urban		16.1	18.5	18.8	13.1	11.0	12.1	51	33	109
	Ogmore & Garw Urban		13.5	16.7	16.7	12.2	11.5	15.0	46	43	66
	Porthcawl Urban		13.1	14.2	9.6	14.6	13.7	10.9	31	43	34
	Penybont Rural		15.7	16.6	16.4	14.2	12.9	12.9	45	33	61
Neath and District	Neath Borough		14.8	14.2	15.2	12.8	11.2	13.0	36	18	52
	Neath Rural		14.2	15.0	17.5	10.8	10.9	13.9	27	50	63
Pontypridd and Llantrisant	Llantrisant & Llantwit										
	Fardre Rural		17.4	20.0	18.9	10.5	10.3	12.8	31	39	67
	Pontypridd Urban		16.2	15.2	17.3	14.2	16.9	13.7	36	19	67
Port Talbot & Glyncorrwg	Glyncorrwg Urban		20.6	19.3	18.6	9.1	10.6	13.6	51	44	112
	Port Talbot Borough		18.2	18.5	18.1	10.0	11.1	14.4	23	19	65
South-East Glamorgan	Barry Borough		18.0	17.7	16.0	11.2	9.8	12.8	24	30	67
	Cardiff Rural		12.9	13.2	11.7	13.4	12.6	10.3	21	17	48
	Cowbridge Borough		13.6	11.7	17.6	6.8	11.7	10.4	—	—	53
	Cowbridge Rural		16.8	15.5	16.5	6.9	5.8	11.1	15	25	46
	Penarth Urban		14.3	16.9	13.2	12.6	11.8	12.5	19	9	48
West Glam- organ	Gower Rural		14.7	17.5	14.1	13.3	11.8	11.4	41	44	65
	Llwchwr Urban		13.5	12.6	16.4	12.1	10.5	12.1	43	37	44
	Pontardawe Rural		14.3	13.9	14.5	13.4	13.2	13.2	39	49	67
Rhondda	Rhondda Urban		14.3	15.3	16.4	13.2	12.8	14.5	32	31	62



**VITAL STATISTICS, 1954—ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN**

VITAL STATISTICS, 1934						DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
	Estimated Population 1934	BIRTHS		DEATHS							
		Number of Births	Rate per 1000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1000 Live Births		
England and Wales	737,800	11,521	15.2	9,038	11.3	370	25.5	248	17.7		
Administrative County .....	534,600	8,486	15.62	6,602	12.25	275	32.12	187	21.53		
Urban Districts .....	203,200	3,035	15.87	2,436	12.35	95	32.41	61	22.04		
Rural Districts .....			14.94		11.99		31.30		20.10		
<b>Health Division. Constituent Districts.</b>											
Aberdare and Aberdare Urban ....	40,630	560	13.78	579	14.25	15	26.79	12	21.43		
Mountain Ash Mountain Ash Urban .....	30,900	471	15.24	397	12.85	10	21.23	5	10.62		
Caeaphilly and Caeaphilly Urban .....	36,900	731	19.81	373	10.11	26	35.57	17	23.26		
Gelligaer Gelligaer Urban .....	36,170	644	17.80	437	12.08	29	45.03	17	26.40		
Mid Glamorgan											
Bridgend Urban .....	14,010	245	17.49	155	11.06	3	12.24	2	8.16		
Maesteg Urban .....	22,920	369	16.10	300	13.09	19	51.49	13	35.23		
Ogmore & Garw Urban .....	22,340	302	13.52	272	12.18	14	46.36	11	36.42		
Porthcawl Urban .....	9,860	129	13.08	144	14.60	4	31.01	3	23.26		
Penybont Rural .....	35,150	554	15.76	499	14.20	25	45.13	13	23.47		
Neath and Neath M.B. ....	31,530	466	14.78	405	12.84	17	36.48	14	30.04		
District Neath Rural ....	41,230	587	14.24	446	10.82	16	27.26	13	22.15		
Pontypridd and Pontypridd Rural .....	25,610	446	17.42	269	10.50	14	31.39	6	13.45		
Llantrisant Llantrisant Urban .....	38,140	618	16.20	543	14.24	22	35.60	17	27.51		
Port Talbot and Glyncorrwg Urban .....	9,550	197	20.63	87	9.11	10	50.76	5	25.38		
Glyncorrwg Port Talbot M.B. ....	45,850	834	18.19	457	9.97	19	22.78	16	19.18		
South East Barry M.B. ....	41,450	744	17.95	465	11.22	18	24.19	10	13.44		
Glamorgan Cardiff Rural ....	37,300	481	12.90	499	13.38	10	20.79	8	16.63		
Cowbridge M.B. ....	1,030	14	13.59	7	6.80	—	—	—	—		
Cowbridge Rural .....	20,000	336	16.80	137	6.85	5	14.88	2	5.95		
Penarth Urban .....	18,870	267	14.15	237	12.56	5	18.73	5	18.73		
West Glamorgan											
Gower Rural ....	11,720	172	14.68	156	13.31	7	40.70	4	23.26		
Llchwyr Urban .....	25,720	346	13.45	310	12.05	15	42.35	11	31.79		
Pontardawe Rural .....	32,190	459	14.26	430	13.36	18	39.22	15	32.68		
Rhondda Rhondda Urban .....	108,730	1,549	14.25	1,434	13.19	49	31.63	29	18.72		

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

**Diphtheria** :—No case of Diphththeria occurred during the year. There has been no case in this area since 1946, which may be attributed to immunisation.

The incidence of Diphtheria for the past ten years is as follows :—

Year.	Number of Cases.	Deaths.
1945	3	0
1946	4	0
1947	0	0
1948	0	0
1949	0	0
1950	0	0
1951	0	0
1952	0	0
1953	0	0
1954	0	0

General Practitioners in the Administrative County who participate in the County Council's Scheme for Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination against Smallpox may obtain serum and vaccine free of cost from the Medical Research Laboratories at Cardiff and Carmarthen.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that Diphtheria Immunisation gives nearly 100% protection and that in my opinion a parent or guardian who knowingly deprives a child of this protection is guilty to say the least of gross negligence—and that is using a mild term. There is no reason why anyone in this area can state that they are unaware of the facilities available to them for immunisation.

We cannot be too complacent about diphtheria immunisation. It must be remembered that previously 50% of the death rate in diphtheria occurred in children under the age of four years. It requires only a few years of non-immunisation to be back in the old days. This illustrates that there is no final victory in preventive medicine—it is a continuous battle.

**Scarlet Fever** :—Thirteen cases of Scarlet Fever were notified to my Department during the year, all of which were admitted to isolation hospitals, as compared with twenty-seven cases in 1953.

The removal of cases of Scarlet Fever to isolation hospitals in this district, depends upon home conditions. If the home conditions are such that in the opinion of the medical officer of health it is safe to nurse the patient at home, this is done, but if the home conditions are unsuitable the patient is admitted to Garngoch or Hill House Isolation Hospitals.

**Pneumonia and Influenzal Pneumonia** :—Three cases of Pneumonia and Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during the year, giving a rate of 0.12 per thousand of the population.

**Erysipelas** :—There was no case during the year.

**Poliomyelitis** :—There was no case during the year.

**Puerperal Pyrexia** :—Twelve cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. This gives a rate of 34.68 per thousand total (live and still) births. Fourteen cases were notified in 1953, giving a rate of 41.5 per thousand births (live and still).

**Dysentery** :—Ninety-nine cases of Bacillary Dysentery were notified during the year under review, the causative organism being *Sonne*.

The outbreak was confined principally to one part of the area, namely Pontardulais. There were a few sporadic cases in another part of the district.

Respecting the possible cause of the outbreak, I have to state that the Department was not aware of the position until the 20th April, 1954, when it was found that the disease was more or less widespread, many cases having occurred weeks prior to this date of which the Department had no knowledge as no notifications had been received up to that date. Since that date cases were notified, every case being visited by the sanitary inspectors, patients and carriers being removed to isolation hospitals where possible, stools being taken from all contacts and submitted to the Cardiff and County Laboratory for examination. Altogether over 400 specimens of faeces were submitted for examination.



In order to try and prevent the spread, as many acute cases and carriers as possible were removed to Garngoch and Hill House Isolation Hospitals, but lack of accommodation prevented all the cases being admitted.

As the epidemic was more or less confined to Pontardulais area, the three schools were visited, and all absentees were visited and interrogated. From the investigations made, it appears that members of many families had suffered symptoms, but had not sought medical advice, as after a few days, the symptoms had disappeared. The epidemic, although occurring among the younger element chiefly, quite a number of adults were notified, or their stools proved to be positive.

It was not possible to trace the source of the infection on account of the time lag between the occurrence of the outbreak and the Department being aware of the position.

**TUBERCULOSIS** :—There were eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1954, as compared with twenty-six for the year 1953. There were three cases of other forms of tuberculosis as compared with eight last year. The total number of deaths registered from all forms of tuberculosis was eleven as compared with three last year.

**Food Poisoning** :—One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. The isolated organism being *Bact. typhimurium*. It was not possible to trace the origin of the infection. The patient recovered.

**Venereal Diseases** :—Many cases are brought to the notice of the public health department. Those who are not attending for treatment are contacted, and encouraged to attend a V.D. clinic. Contacts are also requested to attend a clinic.

Wasserman Blood Tests are being done as a routine in the Ante-Natal Clinics, and the samples of blood are sent to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory.

The nearest clinics for this area are held at Swansea and Port Talbot, and the sessions are held as follows :—

**Swansea Clinic** (situate at Mount Pleasant Hospital).

**Males :-** Monday to Saturday-from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Specialists in attendance on :-

Monday at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Wednesday at 6 p.m.

**Females :-**By appointment.

Specialists in attendance on Wednesday at 3 p.m.

**Port Talbot Clinic** (Situate on the right hand side of the road immediately opposite the exit from Railway Station).

**Males :-Monday,** 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

**Thursday,** 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and 2.30 to 4 p.m.

**Females :-**Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

The number of deaths from Infectious Diseases in 1954 are as follows :—

	Llchwyr.	England and Wales
Smallpox ....	0.	0.
Dysentery ....	0.	38.
Whooping Cough ....	0.	139.
Diphtheria ....	0.	9.
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ....	0.	200.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ....	0.	8.
Measles ....	0.	50.
Scarlet Fever ....	0.	27.
Meningococcal Infections ....	0.	259.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ....	10.	7,069.
Tuberculosis of Meninges and C.N.S. ....	0.	191.
Tuberculosis, other forms ....	1.	637.
Pneumonia ....	4.	18,840.
Influenza ....	3.	1,811.

# ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1954.

DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES.									Total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospitals.	Total Deaths
	AGE PERIODS.										
	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	Age un-known		
Smallpox ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Scarlet Fever ....	13	—	1	5	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	12	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	12	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	3	—
Pneumonia ....	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ....	24	4	2	10	8	—	—	—	—	4	—
Measles ....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Polio-myelitis ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ....	99	—	—	—	22	43	16	18	—	40	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning ....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	M.	Respiratory. F.	Non-Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory. F.	M.	Respiratory. F.	Non-Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory. F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
45—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
53—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	6	2	2	1	7	3	—	1

**Tuberculosis Clinics :-**The curative treatment of Tuberculosis is in the care of the Regional Hospital Board, and patients suffering from this disease attend the Dispensary at 9/10, Grove Place, Swansea.

**Hospitals :-**The Gorseinon General and Maternity Hospital and Garngoch Isolation Hospital which are situated in this area are under the control of the Glantawe Regional Hospital Board.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

**Infectious and Non-Infectious Cases :-**Since the 5th. July, 1948, the Glamorgan County Council have taken over the control of the ambulance services in the administrative county.

An Ambulance Station established at Gorseinon controls the ambulances and cars stationed at Reynoldston, Gowerton, Pontardulais, Gwaungurwen, Cwmllynfell, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe and Clydach.

**Laboratory Facilities :-**Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the Cardiff and County Laboratory, and also to the Beck Laboratory, Swansea.

**Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.—**No action was taken under this section during the year.

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.** No action was taken under this regulation during the year relating to tubercular employees in the milk trade.

**National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.** My department keep a constant eye on the type of cases which could, if allowed to develop, require action. No legal action was taken.

## **WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE.**

Through the kindness of the Council's Engineer, I am able to give below particulars of work done by his department during the year in connection with water supplies and sewerage :—

### **Water Supplies :—**

- (1) Provision of new 4 inch diameter Cast Iron Watermain in Loughor, from Monument to Loughor Bridge.
- (2) Scraping, cleaning and recoating of existing 4 inch diameter Cast Iron Watermain in Gowerton, from Gower Inn Square to Cefnystylle.
- (3) Provision of a 2 inch diameter Asbestos Watermain in Brynaeron Court, Dunvant, in lieu of a defective smaller wrought iron main.

### **Sewerage :—**

- (1) The repair of the 18 inch diameter Outfall Sewer for Pontardulais, damaged by River erosion.
- (2) Cleaning and repair of Loughor Outfall Sewer in Corporation Road, Loughor.

The following Table shows results of water samples taken by my Department during the year.

# **WATER ANALYSIS—CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORTS.**

No.	Source	Chemical Report.	Bacteriological Report
1.	Tap, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Factory, Penllergaer. (Velindre Supply) ....	A soft neutral water containing a faint trace of iron and copper. The chemical and physical characters of the sample are fairly satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
2.	Tap, Steel Company of Wales, Llangyfelach (Velindre Supply)	A very soft neutral water containing an excessive amount of dissolved and colloidal iron. Chemical analysis indicates the sample to be of doubtful quality and the physical characters are very unsatisfactory owing to the presence and subsequent oxidation of dissolved iron causing discolouration, turbidity and sediment.	Satisfactory.
3.	Tap, 6, Woodville Street, Pontardulais. (Velindre Supply) ....	A very soft neutral water containing a trace of dissolved lead. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory	Satisfactory.
4.	Tap, Park Road, Gowerton. (Penlan Supply). ....	A soft neutral water. Chemical analysis indicates the sample to be of good organic quality.	Satisfactory.
5.	Tap, 15 Upper Lime Street, Gorseinon (Townhill Supply)	A soft neutral water containing a trace of dissolved lead. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory.	Satisfactory.



# **Water Analysis—Chemical and Bacteriological Reports—continued.**

<i>No.</i>	<i>Source.</i>	<i>Chemical Report.</i>	<i>Bacteriological Report</i>
6.	Tap, King Hotel, Pontardulais. (Velindre Supply) ....	A very soft neutral water containing a small amount of dissolved iron and a faint trace of lead. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
7.	Piped Spring. Tap, 8, Benson Terrace, Llangyfelach. Ffynon Feibion Supply.	A fairly soft faintly alkaline water containing a faint trace of copper. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
8.	Tap, The Mills, Clayton Works, Pontardulais. (Velindre Supply).	A very soft neutral water containing a small amount of copper. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory	Satisfactory.
9.	Tap, Canteen, Clayton Works, Pontardaulais. (Velindre Supply) ....	A very soft neutral water containing a faint trace of copper. The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory.	Satisfactory.



### FLUORIDE CONTENT.

The water supplies in the Llŵchwr area were analysed for their fluoride content, the results of which are as follows :-

Supply.	Fluorides (as F) in parts per million.				
Velindre Supply	....	....	....	....	0.035.
Townhill Supply	....	....	....	....	0.035.
Clase Supply	....	....	....	....	0.040.

### MILK, ICE-CREAM, MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

**MILK :-** Milk is a highly nutritious food. It can be also a most dangerous food as it can act as an ideal culture medium for certain pathogens, except certain precautions are taken. It is my opinion that it is highly desirable that all milk should be pasteurised.

Milk should come from clean, healthy herds. The milking should be done under proper hygienic conditions, and should not be contaminated at any stage. Pasteurisation should not be used to cover up dirty milk.

There are two pasteurising establishments in the area which are licensed by the Glamorgan County Council. The milk supply of both establishments is sampled regularly.

Bacteriological samples of milk were taken on 25 occasions and found to be :-

Satisfactory	....	....	....	....	24.
Unsatisfactory	....	....	....	....	1.

All milk samples submitted for the Tuberculosis Test proved on examination to be negative.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1955, this area became a Specified area on the 21st March, 1955. The Order required that all milkvenders retailing milk in this area were required to sell Designated Milks, viz. :

Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Pasteurised Milk.

Sterilised Milk

and to be licensed by the appropriate authority for the purpose.

There are twenty-six distributors of milk in the area, and one producer/retailer. In addition to the foregoing, there are eight milkvenders from neighbouring districts who retail milk in the Llŵchwr area. Dairies within this area are visited as often as possible.

### ICE-CREAM.

The Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 state that where in the manufacture of Ice-Cream, a "complete cold mix" is used, which is reconstituted with water, colouring or flavouring materials, etc., the product shall be converted to ice-cream within one hour of reconstitution. In any other case, after the ingredients have been mixed, the mixture shall not be kept for more than one hour above  $45^{\circ}\text{F}$ -~~150<sup>o</sup>F~~ being raised and kept at a temperature of not less than  $145\text{-}150^{\circ}\text{F}$  for 30 minutes, or  $160^{\circ}\text{F}$ . for 10 minutes. It shall then within  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours be reduced to not more than  $45^{\circ}\text{F}$ , and there kept until freezing is begun. Ice-cream may not be sold unless kept at a temperature not exceeding  $28^{\circ}\text{F}$ . It must be protected from contamination at all times.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947 were amended by the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1953, so as to include the High Temperature Short Time (H.T.S.T.) method of heat treatment. This H.T.S.T. method provides for the heat treatment of ice-cream mixes at a temperature of not less than  $175^{\circ}\text{F}$ . for at least 15 seconds. The apparatus used is required to be thermostatically controlled.

Ice-cream is a nutritious food. It is essential that it should be manufactured, stored and sold under hygienic conditions. There is a great danger if Ice-cream is made from materials which contain pathogenic organisms. What is even more dangerous is the actual introduction of organisms by insanitary methods of handling.

Samples are taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted to the County Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Unsatisfactory results are followed up in each case.

The number of manufacturers, retailers and dealers selling ice-cream in the area is as follows :-

Number of manufacturers/retailers of 'hot mix'	....	9
Number of manufacturers/retailers of 'cold mix'	....	2
Number of retailers only	....      ....      ....	4
Number of dealers retailing prewrapped ice-cream	....	52

### MEAT INSPECTION.

Prior to the War, there were 18 privately licensed slaughterhouses in the area.

On decontrol of meat, the Council received ten applications from owners to re-license their premises. On inspection of the various premises and report to the Council thereon, it was recommended that six slaughterhouses be licensed, viz. :-

- (1) Edwards, 197, West Street, Gorseinon.
- (2) Johns, Island Farm, Gowerton.
- (3) Saunders, Off Waun Road, Loughor.
- (4) Davies, Alltiago Farm, Pontardulais.
- (5) Harris, The Shop, Velindre.
- (6) Davies, The Mill, Pontlliw.

An application was received from a butcher in the area for permission to convert a farm-building into a slaughterhouse. The site and outbuilding were inspected, and the matter reported to the Council. The Council refused the application, and the owner was informed of the grounds on which they refused the case. The owner appealed, and the case was heard before the local magistrates, who upheld the Council.

An application was also received from another local butcher to erect a new slaughterhouse. The proposed site was inspected and reported to the Council. The Council recommended to the Ministry of Food that a licence be granted. This slaughterhouse is now in course of erection. The owner of this slaughterhouse has assured the Council that he will afford any butcher in the Llŵchwr area facilities to slaughter at his premises.

From 5th July, to 31st December, 1954, 493 visits were made to the various slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection. So far, meat inspection in this area has been 100%, but this has only been possible by the sanitary inspectors working overtime for which they receive no monetary recognition.

The quantity of meat found to be affected with tuberculosis was far less than pre-war, this probably being due to the good work done by the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In addition, the quality of the meat slaughtered in this area generally can be said to be good.

The following organs were condemned at the various slaughterhouses :—

Bovine Heads	....	1.	Tuberculosis.
Pigs Heads	....	11.	Tuberculosis.
Sheep Livers	....	166.	Cirrhosis, Flukes, etc.
Bovine Livers	....	69.	„ „ „
Sheep Lungs	....	117.	Strongyli Refescens, etc.
Bovine Lungs	....	4.	Hydatid Cysts.
Pigs Livers	....	8.	Cirrhosis, etc.

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered and examined at the various slaughterhouses during the period 5th July to 31st December, 1954 :—

# NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED AT PRIVATELY LICENSED

SLAUGHTERHOUSES—5th JULY—31st DECEMBER, 1954.

Slaughterhouse.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Kingsbridge ....	97	20	734	148
Pontardulais ....	88	8	679	205
Gowerton ....	41	13	322	76
Velindre ....	32	12	401	62
Loughor ....	35	4	313	111
Pontlliw ....	6	—	38	27
<b>TOTALS ....</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>629</b>

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Twenty-one slaughtermen's licences were granted under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, during the year under review :—

Gorseinion Slaughterhouse	....	....	3
Gowerton	....	....	5
Loughor	....	....	3
Pontardulais	....	....	5
Velindre	....	....	3
Pontlliw	....	....	2
Total	....	—	21

**Condemnation of Food.**—The following foods were condemned by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year :—

Tinned Fruit....	....	....	....	172
Tinned Peas	....	....	....	26
Tinned Milk	....	....	....	124
Tinned Tomatoes	....	....	....	162
Tinned Beans	....	....	....	46
Tinned Meat	....	....	....	174
Tinned Coffee	....	....	....	2
Tinned Vegetables	....	....	....	13
Tinned Pilchards	....	....	....	10
Tinned Salmon	....	....	....	4
Sausages	....	....	....	11b.
Butter	....	....	....	3½lbs.
Margarine	....	....	....	25½ lbs.
Bacon	....	....	....	53¾ lbs.
Corned Beef	....	....	....	204 lbs.
Tongue (Tinned)	....	....	....	71 lbs.
Cooked Ham....	....	....	....	130 lbs.
Cheese	....	....	....	22 lbs.
Fresh Fish	....	....	....	126 lbs.
Sardines	....	....	....	63
Jam	....	....	....	5 tins.
Turkish Delight	....	....	....	147 lbs.
Pineapple Pulp	....	....	....	1 gallon
Cake Flour	....	....	....	7 pkts.



### **Disposal of Condemned Foods :—**

All condemned foods are stained with liquid acid green before disposal.

Blown goods are dealt with on the Council's Refuse Tips.

### **Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

The Council have made Byelaws under the above-named section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which became operative on the 11th September, 1950.

In the light of these Byelaws, premises in the area where food is manufactured, prepared and exposed for sale are visited from time to time for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not there is any contravention of such Byelaws.

There were no prosecutions during the year.

**Food and Drugs.**—Through the kindness of Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, I am able to give the following particulars of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst :—

Milk ....	354	Epsom Salts ....	2
Non Brewed Condiment	6	Marmalade ....	2
Tapioca ....	2	Milk Beverage ....	1
Canned Fish ....	1	Rice ....	2
Currants....	1	Canned Redcurrants	1
Sauce ....	4	Canned Cranberries	1
Canned Beans ....	1	Sterilised Cream	2
Mincedmeat ....	1	Pudding Mixture	2
Sweets ....	4	Table Jelly ....	2
Baking Powder	8	Sherbert ....	1
Mayonnaise ....	1	Sultanas ....	1
Tomato Sauce ....	3	Blancmange Powder	1
Sago ....	1	Marshmallow Cream	1
Vitamin Tablets, etc.	3	Lemon Curd ....	1
Vinegar ....	2	Raspberryade ....	1
Trifle Pack ....	1	Processed Peas ....	1
Continental Mustard	1	Stomach Powder	1
Mixed Dried Fruit	1	Canned Gooseberries	1
Tea ....	4	Lemon Barley ....	1
Cooking Fat ....	1	Sandwich Spread	1
Cake Flour ....	4	Self Raising Flour	1
Fig Pudding ....	1	Marmalade ....	1
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	1	Pastry Mixture	1
Rice Creamola ....	1	Tea Cake Mixture	1
Custard Powder	1	White Pepper ....	1
Flavouring Essence	1	Bicarbonate of Soda	1
Horseradish Cream	1	Rickola Tonic ....	1
Health Salts ....	2	Lard ....	1
Canned Blackcurrants	1	Ground Ginger ....	1
Salad Cream ....	1	Junket Powder	1
Sponge Mixture	3	Margarine ....	1
Canned Meat Roll	2	Orange Squash ....	1
Sugar ....	1	Pie Filling ....	1
Ice Cream ....	16		
Butter ....	5		480

One sample of Ice Cream, on analysis, was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of not less than 11%. Proceedings were taken against the Vendor resulting in a Fine of £5 plus £3 3s. 0d. Advocate's Fee and 15/- Analyst's Fee.



## HOUSING.

Housing is of the greatest importance in raising the environmental standards of the under privileged. It is of the greatest importance in tuberculosis cases.

Bad housing conditions can conduce to many diseases, and due to the tension engendered in very overcrowded houses, neurosis is set up and can give rise to mental breakdown.

During 1954, 6 new houses were tenanted, these being the last of the 52 houses started on the Penyrheol site in 1953, bringing the total of post-war houses erected on various sites to 576.

At the present time, 106 three-bedroomed houses, and 8 Old Age Pensioners cottages are being erected on the Brynteg site, but not one of these was available for tenanting during 1954.

The Council contemplate erecting 46 houses at Llangyfelach, not far from the New Cold Reduction Plant now in course of erection, and development works have been carried out for roads, water and sewers.

The Council in the past, have assisted industry by granting an appreciable number of houses to key workers, but owing to the reduction in the number of new houses to be allocated to the Council in the future, they have had to reconsider their policy in this respect, because of the heavy waiting list of families in apartments.

The Council also contemplate erecting 14 three-bedroomed houses at Llysgwyn, Pontardulais.

Since the cessation of hostilities, the Council by new construction and casual vacancies have rehoused 720 families.

## **SLUM CLEARANCE.**

The Council were obliged to deal with a number of slum houses, many of which had been condemned prior to the war.

Twelve individual houses have been dealt with and two clearance areas of 10 and 3 houses respectively up to date, and the families rehoused. A further eleven houses will be demolished, and the families rehoused on the Brynteg site by the end of the year. Thus, 36 houses will have been dealt with by the end of 1955, and the families given Council houses. It is hoped that as the families concerned have been rehoused in houses ostensibly for families who are residing in apartments, that an extra allocation of houses be given the Council to compensate for those dealt with by Slum Clearance so far.

If these Slum houses had not been considered, they would rank for replacement in any special scheme for slum clearance in the future, and an extra allocation would permit the Council to rehouse those families in apartments temporarily held back to rehouse families from slum houses.

## **REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE, PAIL CONVENIENCES, AND CESSPOOLS.**

The Council carry out this work by direct labour and employ four refuse lorries and one cesspool emptier for the purpose. Cesspools are increasing and now number 142 as houses are being erected in areas where no sewers exist.

At present, 523 houses are visited for nightsoil collection, 48 of which are within 100 feet of the Council's sewer and could be connected thereto.

The Council hope to start constructing sewers at Llangyfelach and Llewitha in the very near future, which will reduce appreciably the work of nightsoil and cesspool emptying.

### RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control establishment consists of one full-time operator, and one part-time operator.

Systematic visits continue to be made to dwelling-houses, refuse dumps, business premises, etc. from time to time, and where infestations are found on business premises, the Council are invariably asked to carry out the work and recover the costs by so doing. Private dwelling-houses are treated free of cost, and 50% of the expenses are recoverable by way of grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, subject to government audit. As required, Form D620 (PDP/RS) was completed and returned to the Ministry for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1955, which was duly acknowledged.

Where infestations are found on farm premises, the Pests Department of the Local Agricultural Committee is contacted. Good co-operation exists between the Agricultural Committee and this Department. The Agricultural Executive Committee were successful in obtaining contracts in all the cases referred to them.

The following are particulars of work done by my Department during the year 1954, in connection with Rodent Control :—

Number of Reservoir Infestations Treated	....	....	0
Number of Major Infestations Treated....	....	....	14
Number of Minor Infestations Treated....	....	....	335
			—
Total	....	....	349
			—
Number of Dwelling-houses Treated	....	....	321
Number of Local Authority Properties Treated	....	....	1
Number of Business Premises Treated....	....	....	27
			—
Total	....	....	349
			—
Total number of Inspections made (including dwelling-houses, business premises, local authority properties, farms, etc.)	....	....	464

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

As required by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, I give below particulars with respect to matters under Part 1 and Part 8 of the Act as administered by this Council :—

- (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6  
are to be enforced by Local Authorities—

Number on Register	....	....	....	20
Inspections—ditto.	....	....	....	24
Number of Notices served	....	....	....	2
Prosecutions	....	....	....	None

- (2) Factories not included in (1) in which  
Section 7 is enforced by the local  
Authority—

Number on Register	....	....	....	90
Inspections—ditto,	....	....	....	52
Number of Notices served	....	....	....	2
Prosecutions	....	....	....	None.

(3) Cases in which defects were found :—

		No. of Cases.	Remedied.	Prose- cutions
Want of Cleanliness	....	—	—	—
Overcrowding	....	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature		—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	....	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors		—	—	—

Sanitary Conveniences :—

(a)	Insufficient	....	2	2	—
(b)	Unsuitable or defective		2	2	—
(c)	Not separate for sexes		—	—	—
	Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	....	—	—	—

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Totals	....	4	4	Nil.
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(4) Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)                      None.

## 1.—General Statistics.

Area of District—17,815 acres.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of the year—7,151.

Rateable Value of District—£101,950.

Sum represented at 1d. rate—£384.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1954,  
25,720.

## 2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Live Births :—

	Total	M	F.	
Legitimate	.... 338	186	152	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population— 13.45.
Illegitimate	.... 8	6	2	

Still Births :—

Legitimate	.... 8	6	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) 25.3.
Illegitimate	.... 1	—	1	

Deaths	.... 310	168	142	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population— 12.05.
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Rate per 1,000  
total  
(live & still)

Total Deaths from Pregnancy childbirth abortion	....	....	....	0	0.00.
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Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births—43.35.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births—37.57.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—5.78.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—57.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarr-  
hoea (under 2 years of age)—1.



